, c) In the last two meetings, the criteria for considering formulations as irralional| fcanh'fii] were evaluated and suggestions received from various sources were examined. The details regarding various ibinations permitted by the State Drug Controller Authorities are being collect-I he sub-committee will have further meeting before it finalises, ts recommenda-tions for consideration by Drugs Consul-Latfve Committee.

d) There is no system at present of ralised registration in the country and the State Drug Conirollers are the licensing authorities for' manufacture and sale of drugs. However, both at the Central and State levels, hospitals maintain list of Irugs which are considered essential for hispital purchases. Similarly, at various of health care like Primary Health •Centres, sub-centres, etc. there are resricted list of drugs to cater to the drug needs.

Combination of drugs

2968. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will file Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY "WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unbarred Question 914 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th November, 1986 and state;

(a) whether it is a fact that every week i new combination of one or more drugs 8 being introduced in the country;

(b) what is t'ne number of combination if drugs being marketed in the country t present;

(c) what are the main ingredients along-iih strength in each combination;

Id) how many of these combination of rugs have been cleared after clinical inls alongwit'n the details of each;

(e) whether it is a fact that drug commies are introducing these combinations r high profits despite the fact that single gredient medicines are more effective, fer and cheaper; and

(f) what steps Government have taken in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE); (a) Government is not aware that every week a new combination of one or more drugs is introduced in the country.

lb) and (c) State Drug Controllers are | the licensing authorities and there is no Central Registration of combinations. In view of this, it would not be possible to give the number $_0$f combinations marketed in the country.

(d) In view of above it is not possible to indicate how many of the combinations 'nave been cleared by State Drug Controllers without clinical trials.

(e) It is not a fact that a single ingredient medicine is a substitute of a combination nor is it a fact that 'a single ingredient medicine is more effective and safer compared to a combination. When more j than one medicine are required to be taken, the total cost of all these mediclnes' are not always cheaper than when they are combined together and taken.

(f) Government have constituted a Committee of experts to go into the details of examining formulations moving in the market, including combination, from the angle of safety and rationality and to re commend weeding out of formulations considered harmful irrational.

Harmful effect of Phenlbutazone and Oxphenbutazone formulated drugs

2969. DR. H. P. SHARMA; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELWAFRE be pleased to refer to the starred Question 129 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th November, 1986 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of other drugs are being marketed in the country for the same indication of pheny-^{1} Ibutazone and oxyphenbutazone;